

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## TRIBUTE TO MS. KARA PIVARSKI

### HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 30, 1998*

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Kara Pivarski from Springdale High School. Kara is the top winner in the 1998 18th Congressional District High School Art Competition, *An Artistic Discovery*.

Kara's outstanding artwork reflects all the signs of an artist of considerable talent. "Hey, you in white", an oil composition, not only captures the nuances of light and shadow, but the complex nature of human expression. Her attention to detail has the effect of transporting you to the time and place of the painting's subjects.

I always look forward to viewing the artwork created by our local student artists, and I am pleased that Kara's artwork will be displayed in a national exhibition along with students from across the country. Kara, you can be extremely proud of your accomplishment.

Congratulations! Best wishes for future success.

## IN SUPPORT OF HOME EDUCATION

### HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 30, 1998*

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased again to join along with the Missouri State Senate and the Missouri House of Representatives in support of home education. The Missouri General Assembly has designated the second week of May as Home Education Week. Missouri is looked to as a leader nationwide in the home education movement. That would not be possible without the dedication of our parents who are continually committed to the strong educational principles that have ensured the success of home education. Those principles are the commitments to teaching the fundamentals in reading, writing and arithmetic.

Home education has provided parents the flexibility to tailor education lessons to their child's needs. It also provides an environment where parents can apply the lessons they teach in real-life settings. That may be taking a trip to a botanical garden or national forest to learn about plant science or visiting a local newspaper to learn about a possible career in journalism, photography, printing or advertising.

Home education is successful and history proves it. Since the founding of America many famous Americans have been home educated. That list includes George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Booker T. Washington, Thomas Edison, Andrew Carnegie, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Mark Twain, and Sandra Day O'Connor. A most recent example was last May

when Rebecca Sealfon of Brooklyn, NY won the National Spelling Bee. So when I hear that over 3,500 families in Missouri alone are home educating, I am not surprised.

Without hesitation, I thank each parent who is at home teaching their child the skills they will need to succeed in the competitive world we live in today. It takes countless hours of preparation and teaching time that may seemingly go unnoticed. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed and they did not go unnoticed when Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence and Thomas Edison invented the light bulb. I hope that my colleagues will join me today to let you know that those efforts are appreciated.

## IN HONOR OF JOHN MUSICO

### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 30, 1998*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John Musico, superintendent of School District 14 in Greenpoint, Brooklyn.

A life-long New York resident, Mr. Musico's distinguished career has truly encompassed all aspects of the New York City School system. A graduate of this system himself, he began his teaching career in 1967 at Public School 59, during which time he also served as UFT chapter chair and as a delegate to the AFT, NCA, and NYSUT conventions representing teachers until 1973.

In 1973 Mr. Musico was selected to be an assistant principal of Early Childhood. He expanded this program, which was the largest of its kind in the district, to include an experimental three-year old program and all-day kindergarten.

Four years later, he became principal of PS 110. During his 15 year term, Mr. Musico initiated many innovative ideas, including restructuring the reading and math programs, establishing a foreign language program, creating a gifted and talented program, and encouraging strong parental involvement.

These accomplishments were recognized in his appointment as deputy superintendent of District 14 in December, 1992. In this position, Mr. Musico was dedicated to restructuring the district's schools and developing educational initiatives to promote the district's goal-oriented philosophy. His advocacy of an extended school day for students, staff development, and his concept of making every middle school teacher a teacher of reading helped to restructure and refocus the district.

In 1996 Mr. Musico was unanimously selected by District 14's Community School Board to serve as superintendent, a post which, under his leadership, has led the district to achieve notable success. This year he was honored for his work by the mayor and the school's chancellor when the district achieved the largest gain in reading in the city,

a success which can be attributed to the combination of an outstanding Community School Board, caring and involved parents, devoted teachers, and a group of the finest supervisors in the city.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise with me in this tribute to Mr. Musico and School District 14. It is due to the combined efforts of this outstanding man and the community he serves, that the children of this district can be assured one of the finest educations available. I am proud to count them among my constituents. Thank you.

## PART 1: JOBS WITH JUSTICE FIRST NATIONAL WORKERS' RIGHTS BOARD HEARING

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 30, 1998*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Jobs With Justice coalition, a national organization of community, labor and religious groups that is dedicated to fighting for the rights of working people. When it was established in 1989, Jobs With Justice set out to create a grassroots network of local affiliates that were willing and able to take action on difficult issues such as fair wages, union organizing rights, and the impact of international trade policies on jobs. This dynamic organization has been the driving force behind local and state initiatives for living wage jobs, leading to measures such as the Living Wage Ordinance passed by the City Council of Portland, Oregon.

In addition, Jobs With Justice has started a growing network of Workers Rights Boards (WRB) that lend strategic support to unorganized workers who are striving for justice and fairness on the job. The boards are composed of local labor, religious, political and community leaders who lend their time to learning about the abuses that working people too often suffer at the hands of unscrupulous employers. These Workers Rights Boards are truly an example of grass roots democracy in action.

Jobs With Justice convened its "First National Workers' Rights Board Hearing on Welfare/Workfare Issues" in Chicago in 1997. This hearing featured a number of community, labor and political leaders. I include their testimony for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Part 1 of this statement includes: Brooks Sunkett of the Communications Workers of America (CWA); Josie Mooney of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU); and David Roth of Cleveland Works.

BROOKS SUNKETT, COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS  
OF AMERICA

Mr. Chairman, Board Members, and most importantly, social justice advocates.

I am very honored to come before you today and express my deep concern over workfare and welfare privatization upon

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

working Americans and the most needy of our society.

Fortunately for all of you, the time constraints of today's agenda will not allow me to completely cover these issues, in depth as I usually do. But, I will briefly elaborate upon these very real problems.

My opinion of workfare has always been very clear. To me it is little more than institutionalized slavery. I realize that is a very strong statement, but I feel it is nonetheless accurate. I can think of no better statement to drive home the point that workfare will eventually drive down the wages, and force working Americans to do more work for less pay.

Although I am not an economist, one need not have a degree in economics to realize that flooding the workforce with millions of people working for less than a living wage, will ultimately erode the standard wage of thousands of jobs.

Those of us in labor who have fought for decades to improve the working lives and livelihoods of the American worker, face the very real possibility of seeing the improvements made through thousands of struggles and hardships simply melt away.

As sad as this is, it gets worse, because this is not just an organized labor problem. All workers, union and nonunion, will suffer the effects of widespread workfare programs.

Anyone who honestly believes that workfare will not affect him, his job, his wages or even his taxes, is fooling himself. Just ask Hattie Hartgrove, a Nassau County New York employee. Hattie was laid-off from her part-time job as a custodian due to budget cuts. Soon after going on welfare Hattie was assigned to the same job in the same department to work off her benefits at lower pay with no benefits.

Stories like Hattie's are fairly unique because the strong economy currently allows for many would-be workfare participants to move into real jobs. Additionally, many states have been slow to develop much more than pilot workfare programs. They are struggling with the contradiction of providing worker protections for participants, and the potentially enormous cost of such programs when the economy slows down. Although few will admit it, many States already realize that workfare is no panacea.

It is imperative that we not let the effects of our temporarily strong economy, and the still relatively high TANF benefits, lull us into a false sense of security.

If workfare programs expand like conservative congressmen hope, many working Americans will not know what hit them when the economy turns down, and the TANF funding dries up.

For at exactly the time when people will need help the most, that is when the most negative effect of workfare will peak.

Workfare is bad enough, but welfare privatization adds insult to injury. If State governments are allowed to sell out on their responsibility, the needs of millions will go unmet. In Texas alone, where we have fought, and continue to fight against privatization, 2.5 million medicaid recipients will be negatively affected by privatization. Another 2.1 million food stamp participants, which represents 10% of the food stamps nationwide, will also be affected. Additionally, nearly 17 thousand welfare jobs will be lost as well. All this just to put another 3 billion dollars in the already fat corporate pockets of the privatizing companies.

With a kiss and a promise, Lockheed Martin wants us to believe that they can administer welfare systems better and cheaper than public workers, and still make a profit. This magic would impress even Houdini. I guess we are not to take into account that just four years ago, Lockheed Martin con-

tracted with California to provide a child support computer system for \$99 million; but today the system is still incomplete, and has cost in excess of \$300 million dollars. Or maybe Anderson Consulting thought that no one heard of their child support tracking system in Texas which is four years overdue and exceeds estimated costs by 600 percent.

The fact is, privatizing welfare systems is wrong because it will cost more, and the systems are likely to be less than reliable. Aside from the cost and quality, welfare privatization is morally wrong. It clearly represents a major shift in focus from the needs of the poor to the needs of the wealthy.

We must continue to fight any attempts to deny minimum wages to workfare participants. On the other hand, we need to applaud all states that have shunned workfare programs and decided to put their resources into helping real people, with real needs, get into real jobs, paying real wages and benefits.

We must continue to mobilize, educate and motivate the public around the truths of welfare.

We must no longer allow public misconception to open the door for predator politicians to prey upon the poor and weak.

We can make a difference! We can turn back the devastating impact of workfare if we stand up together and fight together, and demand that public need come before corporate greed.

We can win!

JOSIE MOONEY, SERVICE EMPLOYEES  
INTERNATIONAL UNION

My name is Josie Mooney. I am Executive Director of SEIU Local 790 in San Francisco. We represent 22,000 members who work for public sector and nonprofit employers in Northern California. Our members work as clerks, food service workers, custodians, librarians, nurses, 911 dispatchers, paraprofessionals, and in many other capacities. Eighty percent of our members are women and people of color.

Many of the workers we represent were on welfare at one point or another in their lives. These workers are a living testament to a reality we all should know and understand: The best way to lift somebody out of poverty in this country is to get them a union job. The wages, the health benefits, the pensions, and the workplace rights and protections that unions give to workers help to ensure a decent standard of living for every working person, and help to ensure that each worker will be treated with dignity and respect.

As workfare workers come into our workplaces, we have several important and inter-related obligations. The first is to make sure—through our collective bargaining agreements and through our laws—that the employer is not able to use workfare workers to displace our members. We cannot end poverty by putting others into poverty and by undercutting standards we in the public sector have worked many decades to win and retain.

So in California we fought for and won strong language in California's new welfare bill that is aimed at preventing such displacement. At the same time, on the federal and state levels, our members, along with the members of other SEIU locals throughout California and the US, mobilized to fight to make sure that workfare workers would be treated as workers. We said, "If you work, you are entitled to health and safety protections; If you work, you are entitled to be protected from discrimination; If you work, you are entitled to the minimum wage." We won these battles, and in California our new statute also gives workfare workers the right to representation.

Statutory language, of course, is not enough. In our contract we have negotiated representation language, but we will still need to push for full representation rights for workfare workers.

While these struggles are critical, they alone do not fulfill the basic obligation we have as unions, as advocates, as members the communities in which we live. For people to get out of poverty permanently they need, as I said earlier, a real job, a permanent full-time job with benefits, a union job. So we need to fight for more: more training, more jobs—real jobs.

And to get that good, job, that real job, new entrants to the workforce need training. In San Francisco we have negotiated a joint labor management committee to examine the possibility of establishing training and apprenticeship programs for workfare workers.

But then where are the jobs? We may need a public job creation initiative in San Francisco, one that would include training along with the assurance of permanent full-time employment. But we also need the resources to provide the necessary support for workers to move into these jobs, such as safe, affordable, quality child care.

Public job creation takes money, however, and cities like San Francisco do not necessarily have the money to make it happen in a big enough way.

Who does? Private enterprise. Corporations are making record profits. Virtually all corporate leaders in California supported the TANF bill signed last year. They will get subsidies when they hire welfare recipients. So, therefore, corporate America has an obligation to create jobs—real jobs, permanent full-time jobs, with good wages and benefits, with training and support.

In San Francisco, we have the Committee on Jobs. I think it's really the Committee on Corporate profits. In the last four years, these companies have downsized by over 35,000 jobs, while their profits have soared. Last year alone, their average profits increased over 30%. Their executive compensation is off the charts. Some of their CEO's make in a day or a week what our members earn in a year.

These companies have pledged to fill 2000 jobs with welfare recipients by the year 2000. Three problems: First, so far only one company has hired anyone—40 welfare to work participants into temporary jobs. The second problem is that these 2000 jobs are not new jobs. And the final problem—the major problem—is that there are at least another 10,000 welfare recipients who still need jobs. I think the private sector has a long way to go to meet their obligation to the community.

As unions, we have the obligation to continue the battle for everyone to have an opportunity to make a good, decent living. We will do this by continuing our struggles to maintain and raise standards for all workers. We will develop, support, and fight for public and private job creation initiatives. We will continue to work in community coalitions to win living wage ordinances, as our locals have in Los Angeles and around the country.

And we will continue to organize the unorganized, because, as I noted earlier, the most effective anti-poverty program this country has ever had is the labor movement.

DAVID ROTH, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF  
CLEVELAND WORKS

Cleveland Works is an agency that was cited by both the AFL-CIO Executive Board and the Clinton Administration as an example of successful preparation of our welfare recipients, allowing them to make successful transitions to real jobs. Its success is based on an extensive set of training and support

services provided to clients. These supports are threatened by the new welfare rules which, among other things, would disqualify people in serious training sessions from public support. David Roth, the Executive Director of Cleveland Works, could not attend today, but submitted testimony. I will read excerpts from his lengthy statement.

One of the main reasons new federal, state, and local welfare legislation—welfare reform—is fundamentally flawed is because there is no longer any priority, let alone resources, for job training that can meet both employers' workforce development needs and people's needs to be gainfully employed. At the core of Cleveland Works' philosophy and mission is the fundamental belief that full-time employment with health benefits is the only way for a person and his/her family to achieve a decent standard of living. A comprehensive and unique array of integrated family programs and job related support services help participants leap the many hurdles and barriers which stand in the way of meaningful employment, good education, decent housing and adequate health care. Cleveland Works is an attempt to successfully remove a family's long-term welfare dependency by providing heads of households on public assistance with full-time jobs that provide employer-paid family health benefits and an hourly wage that truly allows families to achieve a good quality of life. Cleveland Works handles only job openings that are full-time, offer employer-paid family health benefits, and come with an average hourly wage high enough to remove a family from the welfare rolls, and much more importantly, from the vicious cycle of poverty. To us, it is a mystery how any organization can effectively move large numbers of welfare recipients into full-time work without on-site family support programs, particularly legal services and family development services. In the end, people cannot permanently escape poverty without attorneys and doctors, counselors and advocates, teachers and Cleveland Works trainers working for them. Developing and maintaining these essential services, is a small investment for the great reward of thousands of families escaping poverty and becoming hard working, productive, taxpaying citizens. While endorsing Head Start programs, we ought to provide the resources to enable child care and education to be year-round and last the entire day, thereby being worker and family friendly. The more we ignore the truth that low income people want to work and only request equal opportunity to become excellent employees, the more we will continue to perpetuate an underclass whose stagnation and deprivation will adversely affect us all. How can we deceive ourselves into thinking people can somehow magically rise out of poverty when we know they do not have the most potent weapon—skills and abilities which enable them to apply their education and be paid for their labor? How do we justify drastic reductions in job training funding when we know for employers to successfully compete they require a better skilled, educated employee? We can continue fighting illiteracy, drugs, broken homes, hunger, homelessness, domestic violence and mental illness, but still never succeed until we face the stark reality that employment is the core absolute to a family's ability to successfully control and shape a better, brighter future. Low-income people cannot be convinced or simply counseled into becoming more responsible, secure, honest, trustworthy, healthy citizens unless we effectively enable them to seize meaningful opportunities to job training programs. There will be no need to throw billions of dollars towards research and academic surveys if agencies designed to address these problems

and provide essential services to the poor are adequately funded and held accountable for their performance. America is unique among advanced industrial nations in its tolerance of unequal access to health care, education and employment on which not the quality of life, but life itself, depends. We are currently wrestling with how to best accomplish welfare reform, yet the ingredients for successful job training are non-existent because of the overwhelming legislative and political emphasis and funding directed at moving people off welfare, rather than effectively training them to meet employers' needs so they can become, and remain, tax paying, law abiding citizens. It is unconscionable that while employers are in such great need of employees, and people are in such great need of employment, there is no coordinated or concentrated effort to solve these problems.

One of the things that is disheartening to us in Cleveland Jobs with Justice and the Cleveland area Workers' Rights Board is that even as the Administration holds Cleveland Works up as an example, it promulgates laws and regulations that under cut the agency's programs.

#### TRIBUTE TO MR. ERNEST WITHERS

#### HON. HAROLD E. FORD, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Ernest C. Withers, Sr. as an activist who occupies a significant place in the annals of the Civil Rights Movement and the history of Memphis, Tennessee.

As a native Memphian, Mr. Withers is respected throughout the community for his contributions toward the establishment and advancement of equality. As a veteran of World War II, he returned to Memphis to become one of the nine African-American men chosen as the first black police officers for the city in 1948. After several years, he left this job to embark full time in a profession that he felt could more effectively bolster social change in Memphis and the nation.

Mr. Ernest Withers is best known for his profession and remarkable career as one of the nation's premier photo journalists. As a photographer, he photographed and chronicled the history-making people and events of the Civil Rights Movement of the Sixties and focused the attention of the nation on this momentous era of human history. The powerful images that he captured have been widely showcased in national publications including Life, Newsweek, and Time. The dynamic individuals of the time that he visually captured included Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Fannie Lou Hamer, Bayard Rustin, Rosa Parks, and Whitney Young.

Subsequent to the movement, Mr. Withers remained prolific, capturing memorable events and people including President Richard Nixon, Jackie Robinson, Elvis Presley and B. B. King on film. In conjunction with his son, the late State Representative Teddy Withers, Mr. Ernest Withers made several trips to Africa in efforts to further establish Memphis as an international hub for trade. His work as a social documentalist has been recognized and featured by many museums and institutions including the Massachusetts College of Art, the

Atlanta High Museum of Art, Vanderbilt University, and the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tennessee. Now in his seventies, Mr. Ernest Withers remains active, working out of his own studio in Memphis where he continues to captivate us with his innovative style and visual perspectives.

For his contributions and commitment to community, Mr. Speaker, I would ask you and my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join with me in honoring this dynamic participant in and recorder of history, Mr. Ernest C. Withers, Sr.

#### TRIBUTE TO LEADERSHIP TRAINING INSTITUTE

#### HON. STEVE LARGENT

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. LARGENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Leadership Training Institute (LTI) for its goal to call America's youth to their highest personal standard of excellence and their greatest potential for leadership.

To maintain greatness as a nation, we must strive for excellence as individuals. And the standard of excellence is largely set by our nation's leaders—leaders in politics, business, the media, and in our pulpits.

Training programs that encourage youth to achieve their highest possible standard of excellence are setting the necessary foundations for tomorrow's leaders.

The Leadership Training Institute originated in Arkansas. But through its staff, youth participants, and donors, reaches across many states, including my home state of Oklahoma. LTI strives to impart to America's youth the common virtues in our Nation's great leaders and the source and continuity of those virtues over the course of our history. Thomas Jefferson recognized, "God who gave us liberty. Can the liberties of a nation be secure when we have removed a conviction that those liberties are the gift of God?"

The programs and activities of LTI are designed to prepare youth to face the moral challenges of our day with a foundation that is scientifically reasoned and replete with experiences of America's greatest leaders. This training, which is rich in Biblical perspectives, plays an important role in preparing today's youth to set standards of excellence for themselves and others in their homes, schools, communities, and government.

#### TAX LIMITATION CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

SPEECH OF

#### HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 1998

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose H.J. Res. 111, the Tax Limitations Constitutional Amendment that would require a two-thirds majority vote in the House and the Senate to pass any bill increasing internal Federal revenues, except in time of war or military conflict.

It saddens me deeply that we are once again considering a bill so flawed, that similar